

# Conditional Clauses Grammar Presentation Type Zero&First







## Why do we need Conditional Clauses?

Conditionals express different types of possibility. A conditional clause matches with a result clause to talk about things like *scientific facts*, *possibilities*, or *imaginary situations*.





## What's Zero Conditional?

In Zero Type Conditional clauses there is a real situation. They simply express *facts* and they always happen. We usually use it to talk about *scientific facts*. The result is always true in relation to its condition.

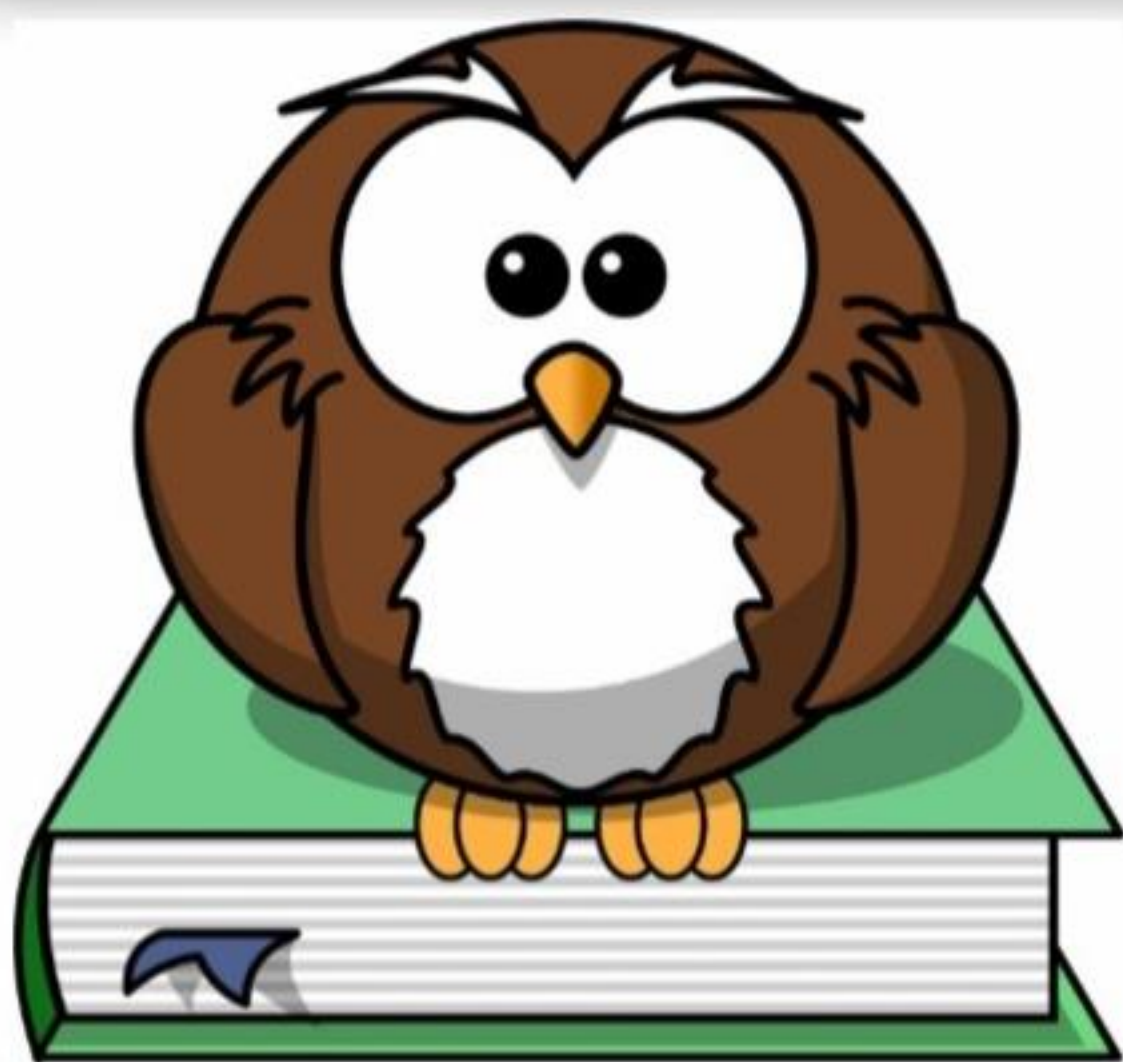
### *for example*

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*If you don't feed your cat, it gets hungry.*

*When you turn this switch on, you start the engine.*





## What's First Conditional?

First Conditional expresses a *real possibility* in future. The situation is possible to happen in future.

***for example...***

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*If it rains tomorrow, we won't go to picnic.*

*If you exercise everyday, you'll lose weight.*

*When we get home, I'll call you.*





# How do we form Zero Conditionals?

We use *present simple tense* in both clauses.

When you **add** more sugar, it **gets** sweeter.

If you **don't add** some starch or flour, your soup **doesn't get** thicker.





# How do we form First Conditionals?

We use ***present simple*** in the first clause and ***future simple (will)*** in the second clause. We don't normally use future simple as a helping verb in the condition clause/first clause.

If you **arrive** on time, we **ll go** to my grandma's house.

We **ll be** in Dublin at two o'clock in the afternoon if the train **departs** on time.





There are two clauses in conditionals: If-clause(condition clause) and result clause. The if-clause is separated by a comma. However, if you start with the result clause, we do not use a comma.

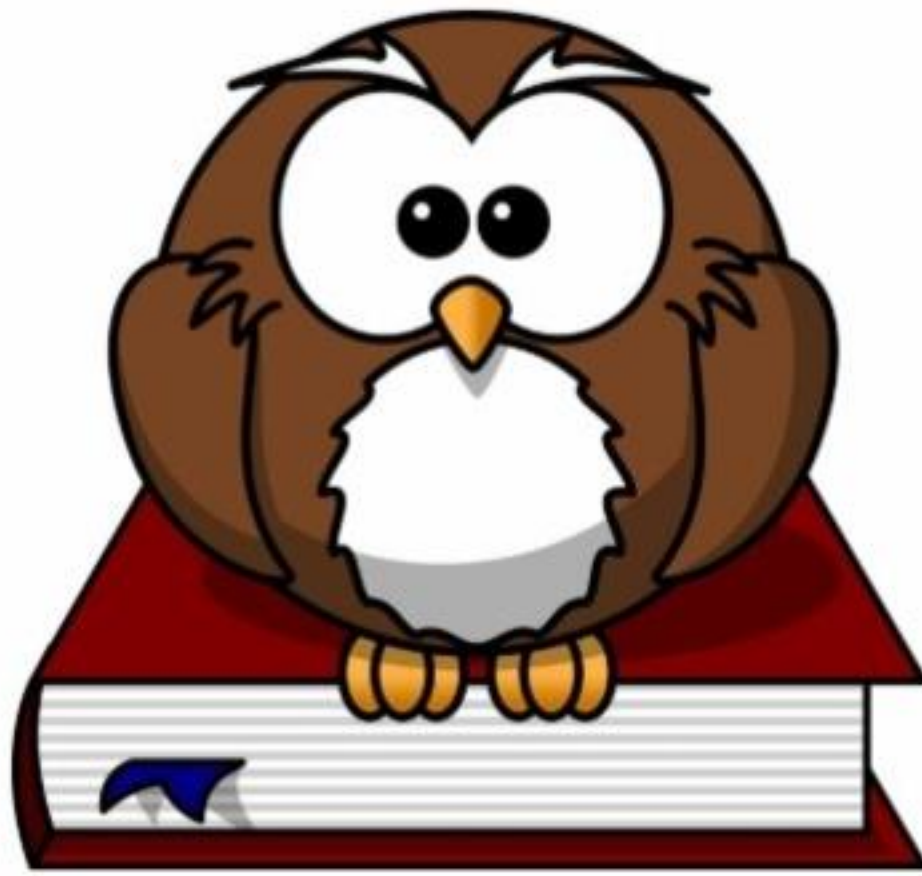
***For example...***

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*If it rains tomorrow, we'll stay at home.*

*We'll stay at home if it rains tomorrow. (no comma)*





## **Are there any other forms used in First Conditional Clauses?**

You can make many variations both in the “if clause” and “result clause”. The meaning changes according to the meaning of the variation.





# Changes in the Condition Clause

You can also use present continuous or present perfect tenses in the “if clause/condition clause”.

If he's **writing** the letter now, he'll **finish** it on time. (Commenting on the present action)

If he's **made** progress so far, he'll **be** successful eventually.  
(Commenting on the action so far)

If you've **finished** your assignment, go and submit it today. The deadline is today. (Giving order upon the condition finished in indefinite past time)





# Changes in the Results Clause

There are different modal verbs used, such as may, might, can, must, have to or should in the result clause instead of future simple (will).

**Possibility:** If it doesn't rain tomorrow, we **may/might** go to picnic.

If it snows tomorrow, we **might/may** stay at home.

**Permission:** You **may/can** go if you want.

You **can/may** come with us if you want.





**Ability:** If you study hard, you can pass your exams.

**Advice:** If you want to buy a new car, you **should** save some money.

**Necessity/Obligation:** If you want to enter this building, you **must/have to** show your ID card.

**Order:** If you want to be fit, **go on** a diet. (imperative verbs)



## What's the difference between zero and first conditionals?

With zero conditionals we are talking about a **general fact**. So, when we want to express scientific facts, it's best to use zero conditional. However, when we use first conditional, we are talking about **a specific situation**.

### For example...

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If you eat fast food every day, your health gets worse. *(Here, we are talking about a natural consequence of eating fast food. This is something that happens to everybody who eats fast food every day.)*

If you eat fast food, your health will get worse. *(Here, we are talking to about possible result of eating fast food every day. The speaker is not stating this as a general fact. It's just a possible result. There are other possible results for this situation.)*





We can use **when** instead of **if** in first conditionals. **When** expresses a statement that's certain to happen in future. However, **if** expresses a real possibility. We are not sure it may happen.

### ***For example...***

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*"If there is snow tomorrow, they won't go out." (It's a possibility.)*

*"When my daughter is eighteen years old, I'll buy her a car." (It's a fact.)*





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